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SENATOR NELL SOTO NAMED CHAIR OF SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Sacramento – Senator Nell Soto (D-Pomona) is the chair of the newly created Senate Select Committee on Parental Involvement, appointed by Senate Pro Tem John Burton. The committee will promote parental involvement on educational and enhancing life skills of young people.

"This is an honor for me," declares Senator Soto. "Improving the quality of life of children through improved parental involvement has been one of my Legislative priorities. I firmly believe the two most important factors in a child's education are the teacher and the parents. We must find a way to bring the two together, outside of the classroom."

As an Assemblymember, Soto introduced AB 33, the Teacher Home Visit Program, which was signed by the Governor in 1999. The program was awarded \$30 million. Soto's SB 33 of this year's legislative session will renew the program and make improvements. It is now headed to the Assembly floor for a final vote.

"My goal with this committee is to promote parental involvement to enhance life skills of young people," says Soto. "I want to explore the role of parental involvement in the prevention of delinquency, teen pregnancy and drug use. We need to constantly promote healthy dialogues between parents and their youngsters."

The committee will conduct a public hearing on parental involvement programs in the Inland Empire this spring.

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